District Building.

REMARKABLE CHANGES IN THE LAST HALF CENTURY.

Telegraph, Telephone, Typewriter and Speedy Reporters Combine to All the News.

By Charles E. Kern.

The Evening Star of December 16, 1852, did not contain a single line of news concerning the proceedings of Congress of that day, although both the Senate and the House of Representatives were in session. This does not indicate that The Star of that date lacked enterprise. The fact is simply typical of the afternoon newspaper of fifty years ago, and to a large degree of every newspaper of that time. But for the afternoon paper especially the difficulty of securing the news on the day of its publication was extremely difficult.

After half a century the first edition of The Evening Star, sold on the streets of very complete record of every important characterized the printing office of that otyped and hurried to the presses, so that

of newspaper progress shows how that has

In 1852 people who wished to be informe upon the news of Congress of necessity depended to a large extent upon the Globe with which Congress had a contract for publishing a report of the proceedings of the Senate and the House of Representatives. The Globe was published whenever there was in hand sufficient copy to make eight pages of the paper. Its issuance was consequently at irregular periods. Today STAR'S QUICK SERVICE the newspaper reports of congressional proceedings are so complete that few men in Congress, or men who carefully watch the proceedings of the Senate and House, find it necessary to consult the official publi-

cation contained in the Record. Congressional News Before the War. The accommodations for press correspondents made by Congress when the present legislative halls were first occupied showed the esteem in which the news service was held, and was almost as great as is required today. But there was a lack of all other facilities which are now so common for the prompt transmission of news. The work now done by means of the telegraph and the telephone was then performed by the slow-going mails. This operated against every newspaper in the country, and even within sight of the Capitol the conditions were such as to make it impossible to publish information of events on the days they occurred. The Capitol was separated from The Star office, for a day or two lecated at the corner of 8th and D streets and then for a few years on the south side of D street just west of 12th street northwest, by about a mile of muddy roadway, and even had a mounted messenger service been provided it would still have this city by hundreds of newsboys as early | been impossible to prepare the paper for as 3:40 o'clock, will be found to contain a publication with the meager facilities that

through a score of stages, and at each its progress has been noted. The readers of Star have been informed promptly of the introduction of every bill that might its progress they have been informed of action on it by subcommittees, committees and by the Senate and House of Representatives, with side lights on developments that might affect it, or upon the intentions of those who have had it in charge, in ad-

Rapid Transit of News. The methods of transmitting the proceedings of Congress to The Star office in vogue today render the service as prompt as if the editorial and composing rooms of The Star were located in the Capitol itself. The telephone is depended upon for transmitting all late news. This is a private line running from the reportorial rooms of The Star to the corridors outside the galleries of the Senate and House of Representatives. In the progressive steps of reporting the messenger of foot has been displaced by the lithe boy who can drive a bicycle from Capitol Hill to The Star building in a few minutes, and the telegraph, requiring the writing of dispatches before they could be forwarded, has been supplanted by a system of dictation from the Capitol to expert typewriters who sit in the reportorial rooms of The Star. Those who know the difficulties attending the getting of late news to afternoon papers, and have not kept in touch with the modern methods pursued by The Star, would be surprised to know how readily complete reports of incidents, occurring as late as 3 o'clock, are transmitted to The Star, rushed to the desks of editors, sent shooting through

pneumatic tubes to the composing room,

prepared for the forms by means of the

most approved typesetting machines, stere-

yard in this city. On that occasion The Star had a private phone in a room adjoining the hall in which the court sat. The distance of the court was so great from The appeal to their interest. In every stage of Star building that bleycle messengers could not have been utilized satisfactorily and a telegraph service would have been more cumbersome than a service by 'phone. For these reasons practically the entire report was telephoned to The Star building, where it was typewritten by probably the most expert operator in the city, who made a speed record equal to that of an ordinary stenographer and produced copy that, of course, was ready to be sent at once to the operators of the typesetting machines. On that occasion the argument of Mr. Rayner, counsel for Admiral

Schley, was begun thirty-five minutes before noon on November 6, 1901. 'i'wo reporters alternated in making stenographic notes of the proceedings and telephoning was begun twenty minutes before noon. At 3:17 o'clock the report of the day was concluded. This made the time during which the entire work was done three hours and twelve minutes, including all interruptions. The readers of The Star who purchased the paper at 3:40 o'clock found a full report of the proceedings running Senate committee on the District of Columthrough nearly seven columns of the paper. During the actual dictation of the report the typewritten copy was made at the rate of nearly eighty words per minute. The work required no special reportorial skill, but was a result of the use of the best mechanical facilities in handling the news. Only a few years ago it would have been practically impossible to secure such results, and only a brief report could have

Associated Press Facilities.

The special facilities of The Star for securing the news of Congress go side by side with the excellent system of the Associated happening in Congress up to 3 o'clock and day, and it would have been still more im- before a witness t an interesting scene at Press. The special wire of the Associated

Address Before American Institute of Architects.

DESIGNS EXPLAINED

MR. CHARLES MOORE'S PAPER ON THE COMMISSION'S WORK.

Development of the Mall, the Union Station Project and Other Local Improvements.

Mr. Charles Moore, a member of the District parking commission, and clerk to the bia, ret 1 a paper Thursday before the American Institute of Architects which re-

ington will remain a collection of unrelated units, and the greatest opportunity ever presented to the governors of a capital city will be ignorantly, ruthlessly, wantonly cast aside. It is easily within the possibilities that Washington may become more dignified, more beautiful, more consistent in plan than Paris; and yet with a great price Paris purchased unity and dignity, whereas to Washington it is a birthright, requiring only nurture and development.

As the improvement of the mall is the key to the development of the capital, so the removal of the railroad from the mall is the removal of that space. What may be properly called the dynamic force of the plans prepared by the park commission, combined with the persuasive powers of the chairman of that body, is shown by the fact that as a part of the report is a reasonable proposition on the part of the Pennsylvania Railroad Company not only to sacrifice its commercially strategic position in the mall but also to go to great every strategic position in the mall but also to go to great every strategic position in the mall but also to go to great every strategic position in the mall but also to go to great every strategic position in the mall but also to go to great every strategic position in the mall but also to go to great every strategic position in the mall but also to go to great every strategic position in the mall but also to go to great every strategic position in the mall but also to go to great every strategic position in the mall but also to go to great every strategic position in the mall but also to go to great every strategic position in the mall but also to go to great every strategic position in the mall but also to go to great every strategic position in the mall but also to go to great every strategic position in the mall but also to go to great every strategic position in the mall but also to go to great every strategic position in the mall but also to go to great every strategic position in the mall but also to go to go to go to go to go t to sacrifice its commercially strategic posi-tion in the mail, but also to go to great expense in promoting the general scheme by erecting at a point selected by the commission a union railway station of such ar-chitectural character and so fitted and furnished as to be an adequate and suitable gateway to the capital of the United States.

Union Station Project.

The proposed union station, in size larger than the Capitol by eight feet and eight inches, will accommodate not only the seven railroads now entering the District of Columbia, but provision is also made for

mission, and if the building shall be erected as planned, a pace will be set for the series on the south side of the mall. Congress has provided also for plans for a new build-ing to relieve the overcrowded National Museum; but, unfortunately, it is now contem-plated that this building shall be of brick and terra cotta. In case this idea shall prevall, the series on the northern side of the mall (where the new building is to stand) will begin with a serious handicap. The problem now is to make it apparent to Congress that a great and important museum building should have a character of its own in keeping with the treasures displayed within its walls and worthy of the government it represents. Those who have immediate character that work are fully

immediate charge of the work are fully alive to the situation.

As is well known, the commission's plans contemplate the purchase of the squares south of Pennsylvania from the Treasury Department to the Capitol, and the erection thereon of public or quasi-public buildings, among them a municipal building for the District of Columbia. The ideal location for the District building is the site now occupied by Center Market; but the importunate condition of the District in respect to a public building was such as to lead Congress to order the purchase of the square between 1314 and 14th streets, and the competitive plans for the new struc-ture will be exhibited to the members of



LAFAYETTE PLACE, LOOKING SOUTH.

lated solely to the plans under way for the improvement of the national capital. Mr. Moore said:

A little less than a year ago one of the most brilliant and most successful members of the American Institute of Architects came to Washington to see the models and drawings prepared under the direction of the park commission. He was on his way to Italy for needed rest, and also for study that would be helpful in his profession. At the time of his visit the exhibition was being made ready at the Corcoran Gallery of Art, but enough pictures were on the walls to give a fair idea of the lines along which the commission had worked. Six months later this same architect, being again in the city, said: "That hasty and in-complete view I obtained of the work of the park commission made a radical dif-ference in my visit to Europe. I had never before appreciated the relations between landscape and architecture. The park plans enable me to see Italy and Paris with new eyes, and thereby added vastly to my en-

foyment and benefit."
This instance is not exceptional. The park plans came at a time when architects all over the land were beginning to feel that it was their duty, and that it might also be-come their privilege, to consider not alone the individual client, but also the people as a body; and especially that public buildings should be so placed as to enhance the unity, the dignity and the beauty of the Years of abundance have piled up capital and interest is low; and it is now both possible and profitable to build not alone for the present generation, but also for posterity. The only element now needed surpassingly great is a keen but friendly commerce and manufactures. Having se-cured the power to live, it now remains to

the accommodation of any new road which may secure hereafter the right to construct es lines into the District; and the national character of the structure will be recognized both by the monumental character of the building itself and its location in relation to the Capitol, and also by certain arrangements within the structure whereby the President and guests of state will have separate and suitable accommodations when entering or leaving the city of Wash-

A bill to carry out these ideal arrange ments having passed the Senate and having been reported to the House with the unannous favorable recommendation of the ommittee on the District of Columbia of that body, the successful outcome of this roject before the 4th of March may be anticipated with confidence.

The main axis of the great composition designed by the park commission as the completion of the L'Enfant plan has for its beginning the Capitol and for its center the the integrity of the composition that the western limit of the axis shall be marked by an object worthy to stand with the two great structures mentioned. This end once accomplished, the result must be a civic composition the greatest in extent known to the modern world. After mature consideration and after consultation with those in position to give advice on such a subject the commission recommended that the main axis be terminated with a suitable memo rial to the one man in our national history who by common consent shares pre-emiwith George Washington-to Abraham Lincolr

Meets With Hearty Response.

rivalry among cities to surpass one another in civic beauty and dignity, as well as in priated to provide for plans. The consultacommission was created and \$25,000 approtions already held give promise that the cultivate the joy of living. This is to be attained by making beauty a part of the in the Doric or the Corinthian order) and every day life of all the citizens. To this end no one thing contributes more than beautiful buildings beautifully placed, and ample parks adapted to the refreshment of both the mind and the body. Unless the monument westward to the Potomac—an Washington park plans shall point the way to the study and practice of civic beauty cording to the plans of the commission. throughout the United States they will fail On the west front of the Capitol grounds of their highest results. In this work the the commission has laid out Union Square,

the institute at this meeting. Thus, while a departure is made from the exact site. the adherence to the general scheme is most gratifying.

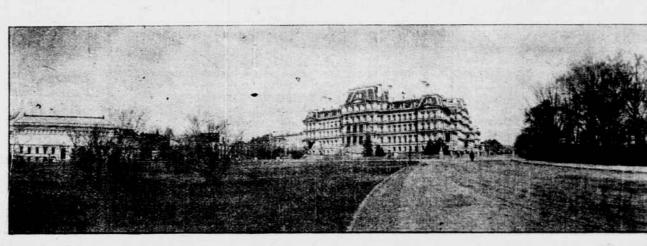
Continental Hall.

In this connection it is worthy of record that the Daughters of the American Revolution, moved by a desire to aid in the park improvements and actuated also by sense of future advantage to their own cause, have purchased as a site for their Continental Hall square 173, the second square south of the Corcoran Gallery of Art. This location, facing the White Lot, is certain to become a most desirable site for a semi-public building. It is to be hoped that other societies will acquire the two lots re maining, and that due regard will be had for architectural effect, so as to secure harmony among the buildings forming this portion of the park system.

An important, even an essential, feature of the park plans is the reclamation of the flats of the Anacostia, or Eastern branch of the Potemac river, a project divided as to its cost. The improvement of the lower stretch of the river belongs to the national government proper, and the army engineers have long had plans for dredging the stream and depositing the soil behind channel walls of stone. The recent river and harbor act carries an initial appropriation of \$150,000 for this portion of the work, and contracts are now in process of award Along the upper stretches of the river the improvement is a District of Columbia matter. The commission recommended as at once the least expensive and the most effective treatment the creation of a water park, the waters being held back by a dam and islands being created by dredging, as

the topography permits. Resultants of Coincident Movements.

The Senate committee on the District of Columbia in its report calls attention to the fact that the plans of the park commission were the resultant of two coincident movements-one technical in character, being the action of the American Institute of Architects at its annual meeting two years ago; the other a popular movement for the embellishment of the national capital, set on foot at the time of the celebration of the



STATE, WAR AND NAVY BUILDING AND CORCORAN GALLERY OF ART.

American Institute of Architects, which was so potent a factor in originating the park commission, has a duty to perform that is too obvious to need argument.

Placed on Exhibition.

The models, pictures, maps and plans illustrating the work of the District of Columbia park commission were exhibited at the Corcoran Gallery of Art for six weeks, beginning on January 15, 1902, and on the same day the preliminary reports of the Senate committee on the District of Columbia and of the park commission were submitted to Congress by Senator McMillan. President Roosevelt and the members of his cabinet were present at the opening of the exhibition; and as opportunity has offered the members of the administration have given to the commission and to the plans hearty, intelligent, effective aid and sup-It was never for a moment the purpose of

Senator McMillan to seek the formal ap-proval of Congress for plans which had required to produce the experience and training of years and the intense and absorbing study of months on the part of men who had achieved the highest measure of success in their life work. To understand the plans requires patient study; because they aim not only to satisfy the eye trained to the perception of beauty, but they also make a direct appeal to the intellect, by reason of their reasonableness and of the historic consciousness which they embedy.

Questions of art and taste are not proper subjects for discussion by any deliberative body, and Congress is accustomed to refer such questions to committees or commismay be carried out by the head of one r the other of the executive departments, by the other of the executive departments, by the Commissioners of the District of Colum-bia, the secretary of the Smithsonian Insti-tution, or the officer in charge of public buildings and grounds, provided the partic-ular individual has taken the pains to in-form himself as to the plans and is in sympathy with the project. Happily thus far only one officer of the government has been found who is not both willing and anxious to carry out the plans of the park

Development of Mall System. The development of the mall system sub-

as it has named it, a space resembling the Place de la Concorde in Paris; and this area it would adorn with statues of Grant and his two great lieutenants, Sher-man and Sheridan. The Grant statue or memorial has been provided for, and it is within the power of the statue commission to locate it in the space recommended by the park commission. There is reason to believe that this location will be the one sebelieve that this location will be the one selected, and thus another stake will be driven. The location of Sheridan on Grant's left should follow without question, since no action on that project has been taken. Nor should there be great difficulty in changing the location of the still uncompleted status of Sherman to a site on pleted statue of Sherman to a site on Grant's right. The present location on the axis of the Treasury is the culmination of the long series of blunders and misfortunes that have attended this statue from its inception. No comic opera contains a more absurd conceit than the position gravely maintained in connection with the Sherman statue, namely, that on the death of the artist a commission to execute a work of art becomes an asset of his estate, to be traded on by the heirs as their art knowledge-or on by the heirs as their art knowledge—or lack of it—may dictate and the funds at their disposal may permit. Added to this absurdity is the location of the statue of William Tecumseh Sherman in John Sherman's rightful place. It is quite unneces-sary to discuss the pedestal that has been prepared for the Sherman statue. It speaks for itself most loudly. It is to be hoped that the whole business will prove an awful and an effective warning

Two Gateways to Washington. Turning now to a pleasanter theme: The proposed union station has been adverted to as the gateway of Washington. There is a sions and to accept or reject an individual gateway by water as well as by land. The long an appropriation for it comes up.

Moreover, many portions of the plans do not need specific congressional action, but gateway by water as well as by land. Where the Anacostia joins the Potomac is and there Congress has provided for the construction of the Army War College and the School of Application for the Corps of Engineers. The main college building, with its formal gardens, will look down the Po-tomac to the old town of Alexandria, rich tomac to the old town of Alexandria, rich in colonial memories, and on toward Mount Vernon, the extreme southeastern limit of the proposed park system. The officers' quarters, flanking the parade grounds, will present along the river front a series of porticoes with their line of white columns standing in order like a regiment on dress parade. This work is now being carried out according to plans eminently satisfactory to the commission. tory to the commission.

In the scheme for the development of the

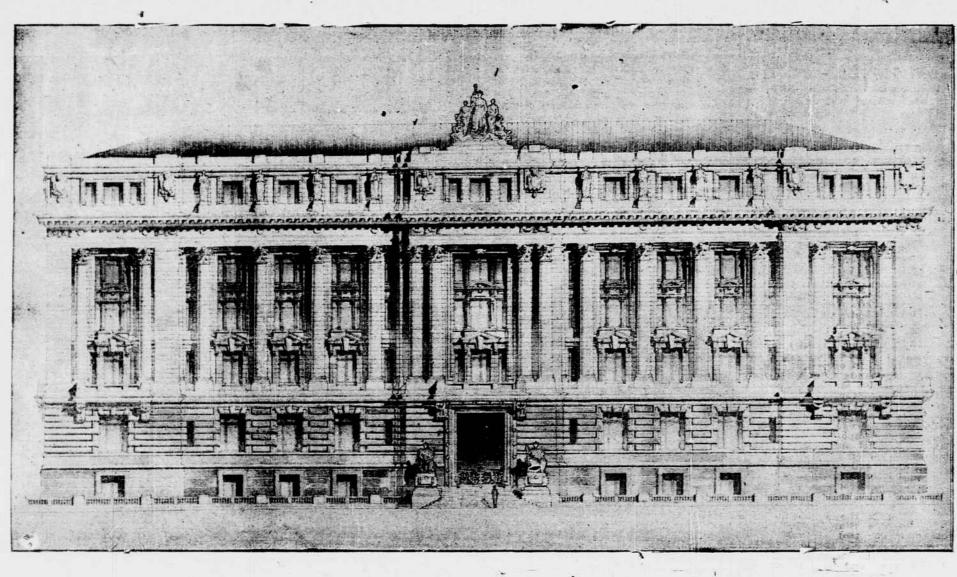
hundredth anniversary of the removal of the seat of government to the District of Columbia. Among the objects proposed at that celebration was the restoration of the White House as the residence of the President of the United States, a project the imperative nature of which was already recognized by Congress. By reason of a most fortunate chain of circumstances a Presi-dent alive to the importance of having the work done in the most thorough and artistic manner came to be intrusted with the task. It is in no way invidious to say that if the selection of an architect for this delicate undertaking had been left to this body the choice would have been the man whom President Roosevelt did select—the president of the Institute of American Architects. How well he has carried out the work, with what thorough respect for the traditions of the house, with what comprehensive knowledge of the universal language of his profession, with what noble self-restraint he has subordinated decoration to architecture, and with what modesty he has made the old mansion speak its own speech and not that of an individual architect—all these things you may see for yourselves.

The importance of the work on the White House by way of teaching the highest lessons of dignity, restraint and historic tradition, coming as it does at the very beginning of what we fondly hope is a new era in Washington, cannot be overestimated. To link the age that is past with the age that is waiting before us has been the constant endeavor of the park commission; and the restoration of the White House affords supreme example of such continuity.

Progress of Plans.

Thus briefly and imperfectly, I have

sketched for your encouragement the progress of plans as yet scarcely a year old. In this connection I cannot forbear to advert to the fact that the one man in Congress with whom the work of restoring the L'Enfant plan and carrying it to its ultimate conclusion through the plans of the park commission was a passion has passed from the scene of endeavor. Suddenly, unexpectedly, at the moment of highest usefulness and promise, and just as he was beginning to see the fulfillment of plans and purposes pursued through thirteen years of strenuous and intelligent effort, Senator strenhous and intelligent enort, Senator McMillan's career on earth was terminated. It had been his expectation to press upon the attention of Congress at this session a combination of all the scattered authorities over District parks and reservations, and to create a single body capable of employing contents to perfect the details and stantially along the lines laid down by Peter Charles L'Enfant under the immediate direction and supervision of George Washington and Thomas Jefferson is by common consent the keystone in the arch. On this depends the future of the national capital. If the plans for this portion of the work shall be carried out, then the city of Washington will become a consistent work of art, possessing unity, dignity and beauty. If the mall plans fail, then Wash-



The Accepted Design of the New Municipal Building.

from the press. for the readers of The Star to be informed | intervening distance. every evening of the happenings of the day everywhere. This progress has been a triumph for mechanical invention, for without the thousands of appliances for the rapid transmission of news, and for its prompt publication, the greatest enterprise on the part of newspaper managers and results. The manner in which the news of Congress is handled for publication in The Btar shows that every step of progress in mechanical invention has been promptly

Growth of Afternoon Newspapers. While the special facilities of The Star for

brief mention of any event of especial in- possible to promptly deliver the edition had the Capitol could walk down Pennsylvania Press over which its news service is transterest up to twenty minutes of its issuance | the size of the population warranted such | avenue and tell the story of the day to his | mitted to its offices on the second floor of a service. But there was no haste to read | friends it is related in the columns of The | The Star building is also run through the The progress in the methods of handling the news. The newspapers the people were Star and being hurried to all parts of the the news from the Capitol is but character- accustomed to centained dignified statetatic of the progress which has been made | ments of what had taken place, with date in the handling of the news from every lines as far removed from the time of pubpart of the world which makes it possible lication as it took the mails to cover the

Reporting District Legislation. Today the facilities provided for promptly placing every happening at the Capitol before the subscribers of The Star form the most complete system that it has been possible to devise, both in its personnel and in the mechanical facilities necessary for conducting the work. The gathering of news at the Capitol is specialized to a large extent. Local legislation has always been the readers of The Star, and while all general matters receive attention, no event is

"exchange" established so that the editorial and reportorial rooms, the business office and other portions of the establishment might each be served with a private 'phone without the necessity of any one leaving the room in which he was working. The suggestion was laughed at as visionary. To have a telephone in the building was regarded as such a great advance over the recognized as of the greatest importance to so great as to cause any neglect of ques-

former condition that to talk of having one in each room seemed absurd. Today the reportorial force at Capitol, by means of The Star's private telephone system, has constantly a means of communication with every editor of the paper, without the necessity of calling any one from his desk. The private telephone lines connecting various news bureaus of The Star in this city also permit a quick communication between reporters widely separated, which often proves of great news value. The telephone not only facilitates the handling of late news, but is in the truest sense a labor-saving machine. The column article that would require an hour of labor to write is disposed of in twenty minutes without fatigue and so gives the reporter an opportunity to devote his

> thought to other matters. Within the past two years Congress has extended the telephone service at the Capitol so that practically every committee roon in the building can be connected with the private telephone system of The Star at a moment's notice. When committees are sitting behind closed doors, or when an executive session of the Senate makes it impossible for a reporter to reach some of the committee rooms, the telephone establishes communication in a way that nothing else

young and its possibilities only beginning

city, upon seeing the editor obliged to leave

his desk and go to a telephone that was

used by every one in the building, remark-

ed that it would be desirable to have an

Reporting the Schley Court. A notable example of the manner in which the telephone permits the prompt handling of news was given at the time the Schley court of inquiry was sitting at the navy



reportorial rooms of The Star, where an op-

erator is available for receiving late dis-

all times a pneumatic tube service, connect-

rooms, eliminates delay in the transmission

When it is considered that before the hour

The Star goes to press nearly all the im-

portant news of the day occurs, and when

its admirable system for its collection and

transmission are considered, it is but nat-

ural that it should be the most popular

newspaper of this city. There seems at this

time but little to be hoped for in the form

of any improvement in this excellent serv-

ice, but it is probable that in the years to

the rapid transmission and publication of

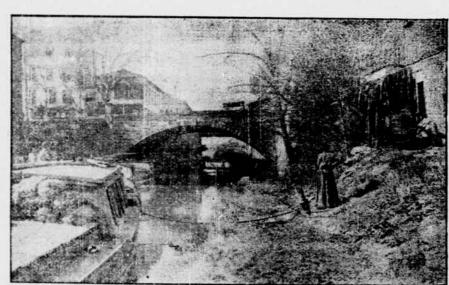
the news, which cannot now be foreseen.

come there will be still greater facilities for

Some years ago, when the telephone was patches directly from the Capitol. But at

to develop, a reporter of a paper in this ing The Star office and the Associated Press

George Johnson, An employe of The Star since W. D. Wallac first owned the paper



AQUEDUCT BRIDGE AND CANAL.

the handling of late news are probably unequaled by any newspaper of the country, yet to a large extent this progress characterizes the change that has taken place in the publication of afternoon newspapers everywhere and accounts for the increasing number of such newspapers, compared with morning publications, as shown by a bulletin recently issued by the director of the twelfth census. The growth of afternoon papers has been most pronounced during the last twenty-five years, as it has been during that period that the greatest progress has been made in the prompt handling of the news. In 1900 in twenty-six of the largest cities of the United States there were 332 daily newspapers. Of that number 175 were published in the evening and 157 in the morning. As late as 1890 of the \$09 daily papers published in these 26 cities 163 were issued in the morning and but 146 in the evening. The change that has taken place since 1880 is still greater. In that year there were published 217 daily papers, of which number but 93 were issued in the evening. In 1900 of 58 daily newspapers of New York city 20 were published in the morning and 29 in the evening; in Chicago of 87 papers but 16 were issued in the morning and 21 in the evening, while Philadelphia with 21 daily papers had 11 published in the evening. The constantly growing popularity of the afternoon paper can readiby be understood. It gives to the public, on

tions that affect the interests of the Dis-

trict of Columbia. In the Senate and in the House of Representatives special reporters are delegated to keep in close touch with every happening, each with a general line of work for which he is held responsible, although each is at all times alive to the "news," whatever its nature. The work of this corps of special reporters is done in conjunction with the news service provided by the Associated Press, which covers matters of general interest and which is the result of the combined effort of a large and efficient corps of newspaper men, all acting in harmony with special reporters and for the purpose of precenting to the readers of The Star a complete word picture of every event of importance that takes place not only during the sessions of Congress, but also in the sixty-four committees of the Senate and the sixty-five committees of the House of Representatives, besides the innumerable conferences that are constantly going on in relation to matters of legislation. In fifty years the numbers of these committees have been doubled, and their work has multiplied many fold. The increase in the legislative work has been still greater. The Thirtieth Congress enacted 405 general acts, 84 pension bills and 63 resolutions. In the first session alone of the present Congress 1,484 laws were enacted. In the House of Representatives there were introduced, and to some extent at least considered, 15,969 bills, gaper issued twelve hours later. The story followed by representatives of The Star

CABIN JOHN BRIDGE.